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POINTS ARISING FROM THE DISCUSSION ON LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

1. The U.K. considers that positive action is now essential in the area on two lines.

(a) Actual works measures.

(b) Drive for the improvement of social conditions.

As far as (a) was concerned it is considered that the survey period is now over and that a number of schemes are now ripe for execution. A priority list of projects has accordingly been drawn up in consultation with Departments in London and is now communicated to U.S. Government for their consideration, and in hope that they would support its proposals.

2. The U.K. feels that the cost of long range development in the Middle East is of manageable proportions and will yield substantial results.

3. The U.K. had no feeling of reserve or antagonism towards the United States taking a more prominent role.

4. In the view of the U.S. Government and the U.K. the Arabs must take the major responsibility for carrying out development work. For this reason and in view of national susceptibilities it would be profitable to work through Development Boards set up in the Middle East countries themselves. Any regional development organisation arising out of the MEA report could assist those Boards in technical matters and coordinate outside assistance forthcoming as a result of the MEA report.

5. From the U.S. point of view the Point Four and any long range development programme must be coordinated with the Clapp report. It is important that the Clapp report lay the basis for longer range development program. The Foreign Office proposals (see (1) above) might be communicated to Clapp on a personal basis.

6. U.K. and U.S. Government agreed that the area should not be parcelled out into "spheres of influence". It was also agreed that it would be desirable to approach long range development plans on a country to country basis.

7. In general

7. In general private capital was not attracted by the type of project envisaged for the Middle East countries. The U.S. Government emphasized that Point Four program did not involve direct financial assistance and that other countries must be prepared to contribute to development programs.

Approved by Mr. McGhee and Mr. Wright
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